No.25 January 1976

THE JOURNAL

OF THE

LANCASHIRE DIALECT SOCIETY

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CONTENTS

	Page
EDITORIAL	3
SUBSCRIPTIONS	4
PROGRAMME FOR 1976	5
A LINGUISTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LANCASHIRE DIALECTS, PART I Graham Shorrocks	6
THE PATIENT W.Cooke	14
SCHOOLDAYS Elsie Entwistle	15
EXPRESSIONS FROM NORTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE Gay Tattersall	16
T'BANTAM COCK Elizabeth Morris	18
THOMAS SHADWELL AND "THE LANCASHIRE WITCHES" Neville Haddock and Peter Wright	19
TH'OWD MILL'S LAST STAND J.E.Talbot	25
SOME WEST COUNTRY TRADITIONS RELATING TO CONJURING & WITCHCRAFT John B.Smith	26
CORRESPONDENCE	28
BOOK NOTES	28
BOOK REVIEWS	29
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS	30
LIST OF OFFICIALS	31

EDITORIAL

This silver jubilee number contains a varied assortment of contributions,all most willingly supplied.It includes an important bibliography of Lancashire dialect works,articles from Nottinghamshire and the West Country,a consideration of The Lancashire Witches,and much more.Each writer has our most grateful thanks,along with our hope that this well-tried mixture will once again satisfy.

This time something else is very noticeable:the fact that rampant inflation has forced us to adopt another method of arranging the text.However,as their name implies,our printers the Scolar Press have a deserved reputation for stimulating interest and scholarship,and should suit the Society very well.Spare a thought, however,for the poor editor,who initially had to type the whole issue one-fingered (and left-handed too!)Doubtless the Society would have gladly sent him on a typing course if he hadn't been so obstinate,old and set in his ways.

During the year the Society suffered three more tragic losses,which are mentioned with very deep regret.In January there was the sudden death of Mr.J.Ford, C.C.,a man of great kindness and practical wisdom who had just taken into his capable hands the work of treasurer.He was a jovial man who did a tremendous amount of unsung charitable work around Eccles.He was always ready to give members a lift home in his car.Then,not long after himself writing Stella Brook's obituary, Arnold Hyde passed away.He was one of the earliest members of the Society,loyal and self-effacing,and had been chairman for some time until forced to resign this office through ill-health.Then just before Easter Dr.Tom("Geordie")Blench died, aged 87.He was another long-serving member who had been on the committee for about ten years.He was a very independent,meticulous and determined character who always loved to come to meetings,where he was ever-ready with a little quip or comment.

Now for pleasanter news.In 1975 we held three rewarding meetings.In February Mrs.Hilda Kitson instructed and amused members with "Sorry,Florrie",the experiences of a mature student nurse.In May Mr."Bob"Dobson spoke to us about "Samuel Laycock, Lancashire Laureate",an address which revealed his intense sympathy with that great poet.Finally,in October we had the pleasure of a joint meeting with the Edwin Waugh Society.What always impresses me about these meetings is how the

Edwin Waugh representatives never seem to know until the last moment what they are actually going to recite,matching their moods to those of the audience.At the dinner preceding this meeting some members reached the pinnacle of fame by having their photographs taken for subsequent appearance in the Christmas 1975 issue of that worthy periodical,Lancashire Life.

At a meeting held on 14th October 1974 your committee,hearing from Lady Parkinson of his interest in dialect,unanimously invited Dr.Hugh Pollard of St.Martin's College,Lancaster,to become an honorary life member.At the same meeting they unanimously elected to their ranks Mrs.Susan Cotton and Mr.Jack Beasley,and made Mr.Bob Dobson Publicity Officer.

One other point.We are considering the question of a short summer Bulletin, rather like those that the Society brought out in years gone by,and if at all possible this will be provided.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

As mentioned in the editorial and like so many other societies,we have been savagely attacked by inflation - last financial year alone,believe it or not, our major costs rose 50%! Consequently from 1st January life membership has reluctantly been raised to £15,and with equal regret ordinary membership has been adjusted to £1.25p. However,we are fighting back and things are by no means so bad as they might seem.Members can rest assured that the Society is solvent,with its financial affairs under good control,and that like dialect itself it is determined to stay alive.With a policeman in charge of the moneys,we are not likely to be robbed! But please do send your subscriptions to our Hom.Treasurer promptly,for like all treasurers he is tidy-minded.His address is 3 Staining Rise,Staining, Blackpool FY3 0BU(tel. 0253-886103).

PROGRAMME FOR 1976

This year there is to be an additional summer meeting in Blackpool. The other three will take place in one of the private dining rooms of the Refectory of the University of Manchester. Members who wish to come to the dinners should inform the Secretary about a fortnight before the meeting. Pay on the night, likely fee being about £2.50p. Owing to the monstrous increases in postal charges, it has become quite uneconomic to remind all members automatically of every meeting. If you wish to be so reminded, please send three stamped addressed envelopes; or, better still, please transfer the dates below direct to your diaries as personal reminders. Members who do not wish to attend the dinner will be very welcome at the meeting which follows, and for such attendance no notice is necessary.

TUESDAY, March 2nd, 7.30 p.m.

Speaker: Dr. Peter Wright

Subject: "Manchester Talk", about his current investigations into Manchester speech.

Aperitifs: 6.15 p.m. Dinner: 6.30 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 18th, 7.30 p.m.

Annual General Meeting

Speaker: Mr. Fred Palmer, probably with his guitar

Subject: to be announced

Aperitifs: 6.15 p.m. Dinner: 6.30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5th (provisional date), 2 p.m.

In Blackpool Central Library, joint meeting with The Lancashire Authors' Association.

Speaker: Dr. Peter Wright

Subject: probably "A History of Lancashire Humour"

This will be followed by a trip (June weather permitting) to nearby places of dialectal interest, a meal, and an evening talk, starting about 6.30, on Blackpool local history. If you wish to attend, please drop a s.a.e. to the organiser, Bob Dobson, at 3 Staining Rise, Staining, Blackpool, for further details. We would like to see a good turn-out of members in response to this invitation.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9th, 7.30 p.m.

Members' evening, devoted to a dialect play reading.

Aperitifs: 6.15 p.m. Dinner: 6.30 p.m.

A LINGUISTIC BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE LANCASHIRE DIALECTS

PART I

by GRAHAM SHORROCKS

INTRODUCTION During the course of academic work on a Lancashire dialect(that of Farnworth) I have been constantly aware of the absence of a bibliography which would be of use to linguists working on the dialects of the county.Many references of potential interest are little known,and deposited in rather obscure places.Copies of such works are often few, and access to them is sometimes difficult.It seems desirable,therefore,to remedy this state of affairs by compiling a linguistic bibliography of the Lancashire dialects.

The bibliography is geographically defined by the word Lancashire in its traditional sense - I have not taken account of the recent Local Government Reorganisation.Geography apart,the scope of the bibliography is delimited by the word linguistic.I shall define as linguistic here any systematic attempt to organise and present language data. This definition deliberately avoids making a clear distinction between works which include literary data and those which do not.Three considerations seem relevant here:

1) The history of dialectology shows a traditional concern with literary sources.
2) Some works in the past have been partially based on literary sources,but also on observation of the dialects.
3) The status of literary sources in dialectology is by no means clear at the present time (But they may have been underestimated recently because of an overzealous regard for "scientific purity").

In the light of these considerations, no attempt has been made to "purge" the bibliography of works utilising literary material.I am therefore not using the word linguistic as many modern linguists would use it.The definition suffices,however, to exclude the vast body of "dialect literature",which,while no doubt of value,is not immediately and readily useful,since it does not meet the criterion of systematic organisation (Readers might,however,care to submit the titles of literary works which have substantial glossaries appended).Included in the bibliography are : grammars, phonologies,dictionaries,glossaries,short word lists,and articles or books on any other linguistic theme in connection with the Lancashire dialects ; e.g. the linguistic geography of Lancashire,occupational vocabularies,studies on place-names and personal names,and so on.

Owing to the fact that relevant material is likely to be widely and obscurely dispersed,the eventual assembly of a bibliography with any claim to exhaustiveness is probably not a one-man task.Yet if any organisation is in a position to assemble a more representative collection of material,it is the Lancashire Dialect Society.The assistance

of members of the Society and readers of the Journal in supplementing the present bibliography would consequently be of immense value.It is hoped that readers will submit details of any book,article,or part of a book,which they feel might be of interest to linguists.As many as possible of the following details concerning each potential entry would be appreciated :
(1) Author ; (2) Title,and name of periodical if it is an article; (3) Subtitle, if any; (4) Place and date printed ;(5) Publisher ;(6) Place where a copy of the work may be found,or where you saw it mentioned.

Please send to : G.SHORROCKS,M.A., 28 LINDEN AVENUE, THORNTON-CLEVELEYS, BLACKPOOL FY5 2EY.

Acknowledgements. I am grateful to the following,who have provided referaness or checked them for me : Mr.A.O.Baxter, Prof.K.Cameron,Miss N.Dawson,Mr.R.Dobson, Mr.J.G.Moss and Dr.P.Wright.

Abbreviations — Journals

JEGP = Journal of English and Germanic Philology
JIPA = Journal of the International Phonetic Association
JLDS = Journal of the Lancashire Dialect Society
LSE = Leeds Studies in English
PQ = Philological Quarterly
Tr. Cumb. Westm.Antiq.Arch.Soc. = Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society
Tr.Hist.Soc.of Lancs.and Ches. = Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire
Tr.Phil.Soc. = Transactions of the Philological Society
TYDS = Transactions of the Yorkshire Dialect Society
ZMF = Zeitschrift für Mundartforschung

General

diss = dissertation
edn = edition
eds = editors
EDS = English Dialect Society
EETS= Early English Text Society
MS = manuscript
rev.= revised
repr.=reprinted
unpubl.=unpublished
vol. = volume

Notes A substantial portion of the bibliography comprises work on place-names, personal names,nicknames etc. This part has been omitted through lack of space but,it is expected,will be printed in the next issue.Reviews of items in the bibliography have also not been included at this stage.Comments in square brackets /.../ are mine.

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18.ELLWOOD,T.: Lakeland and Iceland... London,1895(EDS),pp.xii + 84(includes North Lancashire)

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24.HIRST,T.O.: "Some Features of Interest in the Phonology of the North,Midland, and North-Western Dialects",in TYDS,II,part X,Dec.1908,5-16 (Compares studies of Adlington,Kendal,Oldham and Windhill).

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26.HUNT,J.: A Grammar of the Dialect of Heywood,Lancashire.M.A.diss.,Leeds, 1959.Microfiche or microcard.

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52.SCHILLING,K.G.:A Grammar of the Dialect of Oldham(Lancashire).Darmstadt,1906(Diss., University of Giessen,1906).

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54. SHAW, F.: "Dialect of a Seaport"; Part I in JLDS, 7, 1958, 12–20; Part II in JLDS, 8, 1959, 32–41; Part III in JLDS, 9, 1960, 30–42 (Liverpool).

55. SIESS, M.: Untersuchungen zum Dialekt von Lancashire. Nach den Dialekteinlagen in den Romanen: Mrs. Gaskell: Mary Barton, W.H. Ainsworth: The Lancashire Witches. Diss., University of Vienna, 1929, 145pp., handwritten (For comment see below).

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70. WRIGHT, P.: "Language in the Fishing Smack", in JLDS, 13, 1964, 15–20 (Fleetwood).

71. WRIGHT, P. and SMITH, G.B.: "A Lancashire Fishing Survey", in JLDS, 16, 1967, 2–8.

Journals. The journal specifically devoted to Lancashire dialects is (72) The Journal of the Lancashire Dialect Society. For material which would have some bearing on the very north of Lancashire, the (73) Journal of the Lakeland Dialect Society might be consulted. A popular publication occasionally containing items of interest, especially on names, is the monthly Lancashire Life (74).

75. Manuscript items: Manuscript lists placed at the disposal of Nodal and Milner are cited on p. viii of their Glossary of the Lancashire Dialect. Manuscript glossaries used by Wright in the English Dialect Dictionary are cited in the bibliography in Vol. 6. Some local Lancashire libraries and organisations have manuscript items in their collections. I would appreciate details of manuscript collections.

76. Newspaper articles: articles on dialect are a feature of many local newspapers. I would welcome information on these sources.

77. Undergraduate dissertations: The unpublished undergraduate dissertations deposited in the Department of English Language at the University of Leeds, include a number of dissertations on localities in Lancashire. These dissertations may be inspected on the premises.

More protracted comment is perhaps required on two of the above items. BRÖKER (1930) is a monograph based on gramophone recordings of English prisoners of war. The data presented seem to me to be highly incorrect and unrepresentative. There is a general warning about the unscientific character of monographs of the BRANDL school in: E. DIETH "A New Survey of English Dialects", in Essays and Studies, xxxii, 1946, 74-104 - see in particular p. 80.

Probably very little known in this country is SIESS (1929). I am grateful to the Library of the University of Vienna, who kindly allowed me to consult this work on the premises of Sheffield University Library. The dissertation attempts to establish the phonology of the living dialect on the basis of Mrs. Gaskell's Mary Barton and W.H. Ainsworth's The Lancashire Witches. Middle English is used as the phonological basis, and the works by HARGREAVES, SCHILLING (and ELLIS and WRIGHT) are used comparatively. Warning: handwritten German!

General Works

A number of general works are indispensable to any serious linguistic study of the Lancashire dialects:

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THE PATIENT

by W. COOKE

Ah'll tell thi wod id is, owd mon,
Tha mun be geddin' owd.
It's happen t'Blackpoo' air's too strong,
Er 'ad ti just bin powed?

If we could nobbut cheer thi up,
Tha might just clog again.
We wouldn't like to see thi, yet,
Laid out on t'counterpane.

Now if tha feels tha needs some help,
Thee ax, like ony mon.
An' here's a tip to use on t'way
Ged up an' struggle on!

Now, if tha corned be bothered, lad,
Just think about thi wife,
Tha'll surely chuckle to thisel,
Tha 'as her help fer life.

"In sickness an' in health", tha said,
So tha mun stan' id all.
Fer t'wife 'as worst o't'bargain, lad,
Hoo's at thi beck an' call.

An' knowin' thee, as well ah do,
Ah con but wish her well.
Hoo'll have a job to handle thee,
Till t'saxon rings his bell.

SCHOOL DAYS

by ELSIE ENTWISTLE

There is a tune used as an identification for BBC Radio 4 at various programme breaks and before the News/ It was recorded by the BBC Northern Symphony brass and provided by Fritz Spiegel,who says it is an evocative jingle which reminds some people of "The Wind" and others of "I'm the girl from the Golden City". Edinburgh people have also told him that it reminds them of one of their childhood jingles,although he does not tie it specifically to any one - Ed./This was the tune to a rhyme that Manchester children sang at least 60 years ago,and probably 60 years before that:

"The wind,the wind,the wind blows high
The wind goes scattering down the sky.
She is handsome,she is pretty,
She is the belle of London city,
She goes a-courtin' one,two,three.
Pray can you tell me who it may be?"

The tune stirred my mempry and I was back in a Manchester school playground early in the century.It accompanied a singing game played by the girls in the lower standards(not forms),and indeed most of the games were concerned with choosing a partner:"The farmer wants a wife","In and out the window","I wrote a letter to my love",and so on.When we progressed to the fifth and sixth standards, we forsook the singing games for tig and rounders,and often would spend playtime acting out the characters from the latest L.T.Mead book,which was read to us by our teacher on Friday afternoons.

Street games were very different.We played hop flag(not hop scotch),jacks and dobbers(on doorsteps),whip-and-top,statues(in this we were flung across the road and assumed an "attitude"(shades of Emma Hamilton?)and we bowled wooden hoops with a stick round and round the streets.

The boys' games were different,and never shared.They played piggy,leap frog and ball games,and sometimes pressgang,tying some unfortunate to a lamp post.They bowled iron hoops controlled with iron hooks.

We were interested in boys,of course - and we would choose the ones we fancied, again at playtime looking through the iron railings which divided us.Our territories were quite separate.

Only Friday afternoons were different:they were special.On leaving school we ran home - a group of us from the higher standards - alongside the boys.It was very exciting and the high spot of the school week.We just ran together,dropping out at our own street or road,hoping that none of the teachers would see us thus fraternising.We didn't talk together,we just ran - highly romantic and a long way from a disco session.

One of the boys didn't run but walked outside the group. It was rumoured that he had been expelled from Manchester Grammar School, and one of the girls said his father would give him what for if he got into any more trouble. What trouble he could have got into in that half-mile track, goodness knows! But his isolation gave him glamour, and besides he wore glasses, and this set him way above us common roisterers.

Life was so simple. So uncomplicated. Black and white. Right and Wrong. Those were the days.

EXPRESSIONS FROM NORTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

by GAY TATTERSALL (of New Houghton, near Mansfield)

I have been feeling rather out of touch with the Lancashire Dialect Society, living here in the wilds of Nottinghamshire – a very alien environment to a Lancashire soul. But I have been listening to this county's dialect, and thought that the Society would be interested in the words and sayings below.

There is certainly a very pronounced "twang" in this area – some of it not unlike Lancashire's, though I suspect Yorkshire influence as a strong link between Lancashire and Nottinghamshire. Everyone seems to speak loudly with large flat vowel sounds and some interesting diphthongs, especially in words which in Standard English have /i:/ – notably "week", which is pronounced /wiək/.

The word duck as opposed to cockney ducks is also a feature of this district. It is obviously the equivalent of Lancashire love except that it is quite in order for a man to address another man as duck, which would not be the case with Lancashire /lʊv/. Yorkshire influence is seen in the use of us for "our" and a practically universal use of took for "taken", even among the educated. It is not really a pleasing dialect to hear – I must say I prefer Lancashire's. The tone is too deep and rather nasal, and that rather gloomy wit and stoicism so typical of Lancashire is lacking. They do say of Nottinghamshire folk: "Strong in th'arm and thick in t'yed"....

Most of the following terms I have picked up from people at work – old and young. Television does not seem to have had a standardising effect on the speech of the young here any more than it has had in some parts of Lancashire:

Expressions

He's laikin' ("on holiday") today, he's agate ("at work") tomorrow.

He's got more rattle than a bag of prits
=He makes more noise than a bag of marbles

'Aving a bit of a neb = noseyparkering, being inquisitive

Gerrup, else ah'll bat yer tab = Stop it or else I'll bat your ears

Ay up! Are ye alright? (sarcastic) = You aren't quite right in the head

Ah gon mi missen = I'm going on my own

WORDS SLURRED TOGETHER

Gizarvonit "Give me half of it"; gorrizaton "got his hat on"
Jagadahn? "Did you go there?" Dahn "down" is always used of a place regardless of its relative position. E.G. Mansfield Woodhouse is always called Dahn Woodahse.

BABY TALK

'as 'e 'ad 'is pap yet? = Has the baby been fed yet?
pods "babies' bootees", a rather ingenious little image.
toddy "small", rather like Lancashire diddy
taffy "a toffee, a sweet"; noodling "cuddling up to"

COMMON WORDS AND PHRASES

ah yooth "our lad" (son or brother); beer off "off licence"; bonnt "burnt"; corrons "currants"; cottins "curtains"; nebby "inquisitive" ; overlaid "overslept"; slawmin' "insulting"; snap or packin' out" workman's packed lunch"; sorry + serri "mate" (like Shakespeare's sirrah?); swannin' "wandering aimlessly", like a swan on a river; tab-'angin "eavesdropping" Ally Sloper + Alice Loper - in Notts. "lazy woman". Alice Loper could be from the reputedly lazy caftoon character Ally Sloper, which is connected with the expression slope off "slouch lazily away". My Lancashire grandmother had a large heavy pot ornament called Alice Loper, which stood on the mantlepiece doing nothing - hence it was lazy. Perhaps there is a connection!
jitty "narrow entry closed at one end"
twitchell "narrow entry open at both ends". It is interesting that the /t/ sound always seems to be present in dialect words for narrow paths or entries as in Lancashire's snicket and ginnel.

T'BANTAM COCK

by ELIZABETH MORRIS

Ah never thowt tha'd tek to it so
When Ah browt it 'ome fra t'Whitsun Show.
Tha looked eaht that suspicious-like
At eahr Joe on t'crossbar o' mi bike.
"What's getten i' thi coat,mi lad?"
"Tha'd best come eaht an' ax mi dad".
It come eaht feightin',t'yeller chick -
Ah'd ne'er sin owt so game an' wick.
"Tha's fotched a 'en 'ome on thi bike?"
"Ay",Ah towd thee,sheepish-like.
"But 'e's a cockerel,not a 'en.
Wheer's ta beahna keyp it then?"
To talk thee reahnd were summat 'ard,
But Ah put a coyt up in t'backyard.
Ah bowt some mash an' corn an' stuff-
Wi' t'kitchen scraps that were enough.
A two-thri 'ens we geet an' all,
Thy bakin' tins,and that were all.
Neah tha should 'ear them pullets squawk-
T'little bantam's cock o't'walk.
Just sithee eah 'e teks 'em on-
It fair puts courage in a mon.
For all 'e's nobbut eight inch tall,
When 'e gets up on t'backyard wall -
Up wi' th'ackles,up wi' th'ead
An' crows - it's like to wacken t'dead.

A cockerel's a bonny thing,
Comb an' tail,leg an' wing.
'E's preahd an' fierce,tha con tell,
An' wicked as th'Owd Lad 'issel.
Plague 'im,an' up them 'ackles come
Like a gret chrysanthemum
Coloured gowd,an' rich as toffee,
An' t'back,an' t'breast,like good breahn coffee.
T'wings so soft an' yet so strong,
T'feathers silky,bright an' long,
T'wings are brindled breahn and black
An' sit so neat upon 'is back.
T'grand archin' tail,as black as ink,
As black as pitch,an' would ta think
Tha'd see yon purples,blues an' green
Like gaitin' coyl,it's such a sheen.

A cockerel's a bonny seet -
'E stands so pretty on 'is feet.
For all 'e's game an' fierce an' keen
'E steps eaht dainty as a queen.

Ah'd best shut up,Ah've said enough.
Who'd 'a' thowt Ah'd talk such stuff?
Dost mind,we thowt to wring 'is neck
Come Christmas? - Nay,chuck,would we heck!

THOMAS SHADWELL AND "THE LANCASHIRE WITCHES"

by NEVILLE HADDOCK

with Dialect Comments by PETER WRIGHT

Thomas Shadwell(1642?-92) is probably best remembered as the True Blue Protestant Poet satirised by Dryden in MacFlecknoe and later as Og in Absalom and Achitophel.The feud between Dryden and Shadwell was promoted by literary rivalry and by differences in politics and religion;the picture of Shadwell that emerges from Dryden's poems is of one who was wholly foolish,incompetent and dull,both as a writer and as a man.Shadwell,however,had the satisfaction of displacing Dryden,after the Revolution,as Poet Laureate —an appointment he held from 1689 until his death in 1692.[1]

An objective view would be that Shadwell's work deserves at least some recognition in an account of 17th century English letters.Primarily a dramatist,he wrote from 1668 onwards some 17 plays,after the model of the comedy of humours of Ben Jonson.These enjoyed considerable theatrical success.Shadwell was,indeed,one of the last of the "tribe of Ben".Most of these plays,although lacking the highest literary distinction, effectively criticise the morals and social modes of the period,with specific reference to London and urban life.Shadwell shows perception and a telling realism in portraying the different levels - and especially the lower ones - of this society.

The plays Epsom Wells,Bury Fair and The Lancashire Witches stand out from the others by the provincial locations given in their titles.Of these,Epsom is in Surrey.The second play relates to Bury St.Edmonds in Suffolk;the third,which concerns us here,to a setting "near Pendle Hills",Whalley being mentioned in the play several times.The plot of The Lancashire Witches is slight:the domestic intrigues of two well-to-do Lancashire families,their servants and religious advisers are helped along or hindered by the Devil and Witches(sometimes on a theatrical flying-machine).They bear the names of actual figures of the notorious trials of 1612 and 1633;finally the daughters of the houses are won by two clandestine wooers from Yorkshire.

1.A.S.Borgman,Thomas Shadwell:his Life and Comedies.N.Y.,1928,passim.

The play was first acted in 1681 and published in 1682, with controversial passages n not permitted in the stage performance. These passages all have religious or doctrinal reference upon which the "Popish plot" perpetrated by Titus Oates in 1678 has direct bearing, and, as Lancashire in the later seventeenth century was a notable area of Catholi activity[1], it is not difficult to read the play as a veiled allegory of political affairs of the day in the county. Shadwell identifies one of his characters with one of the murderers of a magistrate in the Oates proceedings; and his assertion in the Preface of the fictional basis of his work, with a denial that there was, as commonly believed, a portrayal of any "faction" in the county, is rather too emphatically made for belief. (This approach, together with other distinctive aspects of the play, is currently being studied by N L.H. and I.J., both of Salford University).

Shadwell's literary sources are fairly clear. His editor Montague Summers [2] sees links between this play and the witches of Macbeth and of Jonson's Masque of Queens; but the playwright is especially indebted to a play of 1634 on the same theme, The Late Lancashire Witches by Thomas Heywood and Richard Brome. More recent stage representations of the Lancashire witches have no connection with Shadwell's play; Fitzball's opera The Lancashire Witches (1848) draws upon the well-known Ainsworth novel. What is perhaps most remarkable in Shadwell's work is his detailed interest in and representation of Lancashire history, topography and dialect. In The Lancashire Witches one young country gentleman and two domestics are consistently represented as dialect speakers; and other dialect speeches occur. Shadwell's The Squire of Alsatia (1688) also has a Northern character Lolpoop who speaks dialect. These features almost certainly demonstrate first-hand experience and observation of Lancashire life, such as might be unexpected in a London-based man of the theatre who was born and educated in East Anglia [3].

The facts so far as they can be traced are these. Summers refers to Shadwell's preoccupation with his family geneology and his search for the place of origin of his name. He seems finally to have settled on descent from the family of Shadwell of Lyndowne, Staffordshire[3], whose name could be derived from the local site of St. Chad's

1. J.J. Bagley, A History of Lancashire. London, 1956, p. 24.
2. Complete Works of Thomas Shadwell, 5 vols. London (Fortune Press), 1927.
3. DNB sub Shadwell.

Well.This search may well have taken him to Chadderton,where,in any case,we now have evidence that he enjoyed friendship,patronage and probably extended hospitality from the Ashton family,who until 1685 were the owners of Chadderton Hall[1].This association dates from at least as early as 1671,in which year there is recorded a complimentary letter of 25th May written by Shadwell from "Chadderton near Manchester"to the wife of another Northern patron,the literary Duke of Newcastle,at Welbeck Abbey[2].Shadwell is known to have spent time at Welbeck also,and indeed served there as the Duke's literary executor in 1676-77 [3].His connection with the Ashton family continued till his death, and in his will he left a funeral ring to Col.Edmund Ashton [4].All in all,it is reasonable to suppose that the dialect he presents in The Lancashire Witches is predominantly that of Chadderton.The following account of its forms may prove useful, since other references are neither recent nor generally accessible[5].

We propose to follow the present work with studies of the dialect(amongst other matters)used in the play by Brome and Heywood mentioned above[6].. Heywood himself was a Lincolnshire writer;little is known of Brome except as a former servant of Ben Jonson and yet another protege(as was Jonson)of the long-lived Duke of Newcastle.But the theme and content of his independent drama Northern Lass suggest his regional origins.

1.VCH Lancashire,V.i.118.

2.Letters and Poems in Honour of the Duke and Duchess of Newcastle.London,1676,p.130.

3.F.Needham,Welbeck Miscellany,No.1(1933),p.v.

4.DNB,loc.cit.

5.Cf.H.Whitehall"Thomas Shadwell and the Lancashire Dialect",in Michigan University Studies in English and Comparative Literature,[illegible](1933).

6.See also J.Crossley,Chetham Society Publications,VI(1845).

THE DIALECT

Many Lancashire people believe that Lancashire dialect is what their parents and grandparents said. This may be true, but a glance at Shadwell's play published in 1682 or about ten generations ago, shows that much the same dialect stretches far back into the past. Page references, indicated by numbers in brackets below, refer to the edition by Montague Summers, vol.4.

The scene (see p.104)is"in Lancashire, near Pendle Hills" (presumably the massif including Pendle); there are various references to Whalley; and the author has close connections with Chadderton. From all this an East Lancashire dialect can be expected, and we are not disappointed.

Dialect in the play comes chiefly from the mouth of Clod, "a country fellow, a retainer to Sir Edward's family". It is reinforced by the speech (especially when he is drunk)of Young Hartfort, Sir Edward's son, "a Clownish, sordid Country Fool"; and of Tom Shacklehead, "Sir Jeffrey's poor younger brother and humble companion", and Thomas o' George,"another country fellow" (see Dramatis Personae). Even this last-mentioned character's name resembles many Lancashire nicknames (cf. those noted by Richard Holland in our Journal no.12,pp.10-18).

Elsewhere the play has almost no Lancashire dialect. Mal Spencer, one of the witches, appropriately has a trace of it in awd "old" and mon "man",(148), Lady Shacklehead says weel "well" (147), and Sir Jeff uses the strong past participle gotten (161); but, apart from references to wenches "young women", that is about all.

Grammatically there are noticeable features. The old verbal plural in -n appears, as in we losten (=lost)puss (113) and We han (=have-n)taken a Witch too (175). Such plurals were recorded for S.E.Lancs in 1890 (see Ellis,A.J.: English Dialects. Their sounds and Homes,E.E.T.S., p.77). If you can't understand them, you might well be asked, in the words of Doubt in the play (119),where han you lived?

Other grammar of interest includes an "if" (148), the intensifier in a meeghty great Cat "a very great cat" (146), the old plural Eyne "eyes" (148 - cf.Ellis, op.cit., from his area D21, which includes S.E.Lancs.), mun "must" (117), past participles like brokken (157), and future tenses like I'st (=I shall) let fly (166). Thedefinite article is sometimes th as in th'leeghts (119 - cf.Ellis, op.cit., p.78), but is very occasionally omitted, as in Butter "the butter" (183).

Lexically significant items include Buggarts (119)for "evil spirits" (cf.Boggart Hole Clough, N.Manchester, 2½ miles from Chadderton), clemd "very cold" (117), lone "lane" (119 - cf.Ellis, op.cit., p.78), plec(k) "place" (113, 119) and Powts "young birds" (157,176) -cf.Wright, T.Provincial Glossary, pub.1869 sub pout,threped"argued" (183), and wons "dwells" (146-cf.EDD won v, from O.E. wunian). There is the curious meet (=just) a bit, for which see EDD meet, adv., 4, Lancs. only, and cf. OE gemet "fit, proper."
"She" is commonly in the play whoo and occasionally woo, both by change of stress from the diphthong in O.E. hēo and indicating the /u:/-type pronunciation still heard for this word in Lancashire - cf.Ellis,op.cit.p.78, and recordings that I made of free conversation at Ainsworth in July 1975.

Dialect pronunciation in Shadwell's play is strikingly North-West Midland.M.E. a has been rounded to o before n in e.g. onny mon"any man"(157), condle (119 - a S.Lancs pronunciation, see Wright, J.English Dialect Grammar), and even Loncashire (148 - unrec. in The English Dialect Grammar, which however notes Lonk "native of Lancashire" from E. Lancs.) This Shadwell word-group includes an apparent misprint in dawn th'honk. Surely this should read dawn th'bonk" "down the bank"(=slope),which would make good linguistic sense.

To the interesting Lancashire group of words with /ɔ/ for ME o we can add from the play Buggarts and ludging "lodging"(119). There is a marked loss of l both medially as in caw'd"called"(147) and finally as in fow"foul,ugly"(twice,148). Loss of final /l/causes the curious-looking words Steepo "steeple",(119)Angee"angel"(166), stabo"stable" (175), and kibbo "strong stick(148-cf.EDD kibbo,sb. and kibble sb).

Quite typical of East Lancashire still we meet unvoicing in expressions like my hont (117 - cf./ɒnt/from Harwood in Survey of English Dialects,vol.I.Part 2, question VI.7.1.)and yet heavy voicing in others such as raddle (=rattle)thy bones

(148). Northern and Scottish [Xw] seems to start wheint "quaint" (114) and whean "quean, woman" (148). Strongers (119) and to Daunce contain relics of Lancashire approximations to French-type nasalised vowels, whilst Doughter (119) apparently equals the still-heard pronunciation [ˈdʊɔtə̃ˈ]. ME iht has yielded [i:t] not only in neeght, reeght, etc. (166) but also in neegh "nigh" and theegh "thigh", which according to The English Dialect Grammar have both been S. Lancashire pronunciations.

To give the flavour of the play, here is a short extract from Thomas o'George's speech (pp.146-7) about an encounter with a witch:
"Why, an't please your Worships, I was at Mal Spencer's House, where she wons i"th' Lone, and whoo has a meeghty great Cat, a black one by'r Lady, and whoo kist and whoo clipt Cat, and ay sent me dawn a bit (meet a bit) and believe Cat went under her Coats. Quo ay, what don yoo doo with that fow Cat? why, says Whoo, who soukes me. Soukes tee? Marry that's whaint, quo ay; by'r Lady what aan Cat do besides? Why, says whoo, woost carry me to Rachdale? belive. Whaw, quo ay, ay, that's protty! Why, says whoo, yeowst ha one an yew win to carry yeow; by'r Lady, quo ay, with aw my heart, and thank aw too, mary 'twill save my Tit a pow'r a labour; so woo caw's a cat to me, a huge Cat, and we ridden both to Rachdale streight along".

Just very occasionally, however, Shadwell goes too far in inventing local pronunciations. Protty "pretty" in the above passage and haund "hand" (twice, p.178) seem inexplicable for Lancashire (cf. EDG sub pretty and hand). Nevertheless the overlying impression is of a dialect not too unlike that of our Lancashire friends and relatives late in the last century, though with additional examples in the various historical sound-groups. Unless you believe this, you will be tempted to agree with Doubt's (119) assessmemt pf Clod, "The fellow's mad, I neither understand his words nor his Sence".

TH'OWD MILL'S LAST STAND

by J.E.TALBOT(cotton mill mechanic turned schoolmaster)

Just afther t'last war Ah worked at t'mill,
T'bad times were gone,but th'owd pattern were theear.
There were Jaoquards an' Dobbies an'
Though gettin' on,th'owd Lancashire looms
Still clattered an' creaked,
Driven bi t'line shaft an' leather belts.

T'big engine still steamed,breet an' oily,
An' reigned in id donkey-stooaned palace;
An' t'firebeater,smudged face wi' white teeth,
Filled 'is 'oppers fray a heeap o' slack coyl.
'Is black-fronted boiler gie life to a't'mill,
An' o't'top were a snug place to hide.

Women di'nt oft weear shawls bi thad time,
Bud ironed clogs enough were still theear
T'mek gradely clatter o'th'owd stooan brig.
Comin' an' gooin' were different seawnds,
Slow-like an' scattered as we traycled in,
An' a' together in a rush comin' eawt!

Sometimes t'boss 'ud stan' theear at t'dooar
An' watch them as were comin' in late,
He'd glare an' frown an' shek 'is 'ead,
Bud 'e couldn't do mooar just then;
Wonst there were mooar jobs nor weyvers
Bud t'clog were neaw on t'other foot.

Yet mooar change i'th'owd ways were neaw t'bi sin
As one Monda', soon i't'morn,
Two strange young fellas come in to t'shade
Wi' nooatbook an' stopwetch in 'and.
Wi 'eard a' abeawt "redeployment"
An' heaw t'govnmunt were 'andin' eawt brass.

"Efficient" neaw we 'ad to become
Wi chucked eawt tons of owd tackle,
For th'owd Selas gas got t'lectric leet;
A firm fra deawn Seawth took eawr mill an' us o'er.
T'future seemed breet,bud id ne'er come to much
For soon afther thad wi were shut!

Note The mill in question was the Palatine Mill,Great Harwood,in the period 1945-50.

SOME WEST-COUNTRY TRADITIONS RELATING TO CONJURING AND WITCHCRAFT

by JOHN S. SMITH

It has been said that, of all the traditions relating to the supernatural, stories of ghosts and witches are the most tenacious of life. Certainly ghost stories are still very common in all parts of the British Isles, but it may interest your readers to know that older people in the more isolated parts of the south-west of England still occasionally tell tales of witchcraft and 'conjuring'. The following references are taken from tape-recordings of dialect I made in 1967-8 in Dorset and Somerset.

One of the commonest beliefs was that a spell might be cast on cattle, whose milk would then turn to blood. Mr. Tuck, then aged 68, of Beaminster, Dorset, referred to this belief as follows:

> A hold man once said here when I was a boy that there was a woman went out picking sticks (i.e. without permission). - a gipsy woman. And farmers went and told her of it (i.e.remonstrated with her). And she said, "When you milk your cows tonight,'stead o'coming out white it's coming our red." And so it did.

He went on to tell how a person who cut his finger might suspect a with of having caused the accident by a kind of sympathetic magic, by fastening a scythe edge upmost in an upstairs room of her house:

> They used to say there's some witches 'bout here. They used to say they'd carry a scythe upstairs and tie 'en up on th'edge. If you hear anybody cut their finger, they say, "That's they what witched me" - ''cos they cut their finger... Old people used to believe in that yeard ago, you know.

Later he mentioned a rather less malevolent activity where the power to cure warts could be passed on only from a man to a woman or, presumably, vice versa:

> There was old man next door there. If you have any warts on your hand he'd say something, and 'bout a week or a month they're all gone. He asked you how many you'd got and he'd say, "That's all right then," -and they'd be gone. But he told the missus he could tell her what to say, but he couldn't tell me, - not a man. But never told her, and he's dead now...Something he'd read in the Bible, I suppose.

Other 'conjurers', or white witches, were credited with being able to cure more severe complaints. Thus a Mr.Webber, then aged 66, of Cuxbrough, Somerset, told of how ringworm was cured by 'some sort of prayer':.

> There was a man in Dunster not many years ago, old A. He was an old gamekeeper, and I was over there on the road to Dunster one day to work, 'long wi' a lot more o' course, and up old A. came on his pony.... And he got telling us where he was going to. He was going up to the farm here, J.N.'s. All the calves had the ringworms and he was going up. And he went up there and looked at 'em and all, and zaid some sort of a prayer. - J.N. zaid hisself that the calves got better.

And, finally, we have the same informant feeling rather more sceptical about the efficacy of an alleged cure for the scrofulous disease which used to be known as 'king's evil'. Nevertheless, the account is quite detailed and incidentally sheds some light on the habits and way of life of those believed to possess supernatural powers:

> But there was another one lived down here in the woods. These people, see, years ago, they all lived in queer places. They didn't live in a street with the rest; they lived in a house in the wood, under the big trees or something. And I've heard my old grandfather talk about 'em. - There used to be a conjurer in Dunster. People used to get witched, and they used to go to the conjurer and he used to tell them what to do. I've heard my old grandfather say that somebody had a child with something wrong on his arm or something, and it's supposed to be the king's evil....And they went to Conjurer B. at Dunster and he told 'em to go home, catch a frog and cut off the right hind leg and rub it on the place, see, and take the frog and throw that in one place and the leg in another. When the frog died and the leg rot, place would get well. - Well, of course the place got well, and it would have got well anyhow... He got half a crown out o't!

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters reaching the Society frequently have to be decoded. Here for example is part of one from our honoured life member Oswald("Archie")Baxter, written last March:

"It's Box 'Arry week, what wi' them brazzend Post Office folk moitherin' us wi' doublin' on stomps; an' th'electrics mekkin' crow-boggarts on us...Ah'm reet crammed as t'Doctor won't let me come to t'meetings...Best wishes to Leslie, yon felly Barnes from Pendleton as thinks he knows Rachda', and respects to our Chairman and Mrs. Kathleen an' owd Uncle Edwin Waugh an' a', if you see him".

Or try this, from Mrs. Mary P.McCooey and family of St.Helens:

"Snellens may be alright for foreigners from Down South or from unmentionables from Wiggin, but your true Saint will pronounce it as Sint 'Ellin(s).... As a little girl I was often told I was "thick as a Greenbank butty" or "quare as Dick's 'atband" or that I "ought be in Rain'ill" or was "acting like a a'penny book"(I must have been a particularly stupid child). If I mythered round, I was told to "goo an' shuv ducks" and, if I was greedy, I was going to be "as fat as ol' Wittiker". I believe this last-named was a gentleman of quite fantastic girth, known locally as Bally Whitaker..."

Or peruse this third, from Ian Baldwin, who maintains that he is a Lancashire exile working among Jutes and Saxons at Hadlow College in Kent:

"I still feel Darren to be my home. A good word there for a flecky, soiled or mangy piece of clothing or furniture is powssey. So a powssey sofa is to be avoided... My father still uses hid deggin'-can to deg his tarnips...A much-used affectionate farewell in Darren is Mahnd trams...One thing of note is that this language still lives, as I am only 26..."

BOOK NOTES

Your editor has just brought out a Derbyshire Drawl to complete a quartet of North Country dialect books, following The Lanky Twang, The Yorkshire Yammer and The Cheshire Chatter. He is now attempting for early 1976 for the same publishers (Dalesman Publishing Co., Clapham, via Lancaster) a more serious book on Lancashire dialect. This is expected to include, among many other things, some analysis of the speech of Manchester and of Liverpool. At any rate, that is part of the plan: we shall have to see how it develops.

Our hard-working new treasurer, Bob Dobson, has kindly presented our Lancashire Dialect Library with the following:

An Anthology of West Riding Dialect Verse, ed. Gwen Wade, pub. Yorks. Dialect Soc., 1964.

Lancashire Dialect Society News Letters, 1952-7.

The Life of Edwin Waugh, written for broadcasting by Bertha Lonsdale, produced by

Trevor Hill, in the series "Lives of Famous Northerners".

Nor is this all. Mr. Moss, curator of our dialect collection, has been diligently scouring the countryside for other suitable works and has obtained for us the following:

Ever Ready Recitations of Wit and Humour. Manchester (Heywood & Son Ltd.), no date.

Hall, G.: Poets and Poetry of Blackburn. J & G. Toulmin, printers, 1902.

Hartley, J.: Seets i' Blackpool, Fleetwood, Lytham and Southport. London (Nicholson & Sons) 1916.

Lee, P.: Mystery of Sunnt Fowt. Rochdale (Aldine Press), 1906.

BOOK REVIEWS

Willy Elmer, Terminology of Fishing: A Survey of English and Welsh Inshore-Fishing Things and Words (The Cooper Monographs, 19). Bern, x + 339pp., price Sfr. 36.

It is a delight to mention this very original work, the result of fieldwork in 111 inshore-fishing communities using basically the same questionnaire as that employed for the surveys reported in our Society's Journals for 1967-8. One of the book's many great attractions is its use of photographs (80 in all), including one of the Fleetwood sprawners "prawn-boats". There are 73 maps, 23 diagrams, and the whole is most carefully researched. Clear explanations of equipment, processes etc. precede linguistic results which show a fantastic wealth of terms. It has been reviewed at much greater length in English Studies (vol. 56, no. 3, June 1975); but, if you want to know more about Lancashire nobbies or kibbles or indeed any item central to inshore fishing, you had better plead with your librarian to obtain this enthralling book.

Peter Trudgill Accent, Dialect and the School (Edward Arnold, £1.95).

This book, directed at teachers, is beautifully presented and has an arresting title. It makes a number of wise statements, e.g. about the dialect of West Indian children and completing sentences with prepositions. The author states that he is "a linguist with no classroom experience", which seems supported by many curious statements such as: "Standard English has nothing to do with pronunciation", "There is nothing you can say in one language that you cannot express in another", "Differences between English dialects... are principally rather small grammatical differences", "It is very encouraging to see sentences like We never done that before appearing boldly in the teacher's handwriting in a child's exercise book". This may be dangerous advice to teachers, making them believe that anything will do. The kindest thing is to say no more.

Lore & Language, vol. 2, no. 1, ed. Dr. Widdowson (Dept. of Eng. Language, Sheffield University; July, 1974).

Besides other interesting articles such as that by Fernand Hoffman on the language of Luxemburgers, this issue is notable for one by Clive Upton, "Language butchered: back-slang in the Birmingham meat trade", an article of great worth.

P.W.

Highly recommended.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS for Year Ending 31st December 1974

Receipts	£ p	£ p	Payments	£ p	£ p
Arrears		4.00	Printing of Journal		132.00
Current		50.60			
Paid in advance		5.25	Postage and Stationery		10.96
Life membership		10.50			
			Expenses of Meetings		
Donations		27.00			
Sale of Journal		14.14			
Building Society Interest		11.54			
Balance 31st Dec. 1973			Balance 31.Dec.1974		
Barclays Bank Ltd.	28.43		Barclays Bank Ltd.	22.42	
Bradford & Bingley Building Soc.	192.74		Bradford & Bingley Building Soc.	155.28	
Cash in hand	16.37		Cash in hand	15.82	
		237.54			193.52
		360.57			360.57

Audited and found correct

S. ROBERTS

2 Feb. 1975

G.L. BROOK Hon. Treasurer

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